## 5FUMD-2001-0009-0248

## Billage of Union Springs

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November 16, 2001

Docket Coordinator
Headquarters U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
CERLA Docket Office
Mail Code 5201G
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20260

To Whom It May Concern:

As Mayor, I am sending this letter on behalf of the residents of the Village of Union Springs, New York, most strongly urging the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to designate the Cayuga County ground-water contamination site (Code 5201G) as an EPA Superfund Site.

As Mayor of the Village of Union Springs, I represent many people who are being impacted by the contamination "plume" which contains Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC) coming from a source on the south side of the city of Auburn, New York. These VOC's are seriously contaminating the deep aquifers that supply water to most of the residents of our Town. In recent years, the New York State Department of Health has found trace levels of organic chemicals in drinking water, namely, cis-1,2-dichloroethene, trichloroethene and benzene. In particular, the level of cis-1, 2- dichloroethene has been found to be nearly twice the maximum contamination level (MCL) allowed under the New York State drinking water regulations. Clearly, this presents a health hazard to all residents of our entire area through their drinking water.

The Village of Union Springs has joined with the Towns of Aurelius, Fleming and Springport to form a regional board known as the Cayuga Lake Inter-Community Water Board. This board has been formed to deal with this "plume of contamination" that some outside entity has produced and to collectively seek ways to protect our constituents from these health hazards.

The cost to "clean" the water coming from the deep aquifers that are contaminated by the advancing "plume" are unbearably high without any outside assistance. It is anticipated that funding from EPA and DEC "Superfunds", if designation is approved, would be essential to assist our small, rural, needy communities in obtaining such financial assistance.

This is an Equal Opportunity Program. Discrimination is prohibited by Federal Law. Complaints of discrimination may be filed with USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410

Your review of all evidence and supporting documentation relating to this site will hopefully show that those parties responsible for the contamination should, and will make restitution to all citizens of the affected area. In order for elected officials of the Village of Union Springs to fully deal with the contaminated water aquifers that provide drinking water to our constituents, the EPA must designate the Cayuga County site as a "Superfund" Site.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Trufant

Mayor